

VZCZCXRO8755  
PP RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHNP RUEHROV RUEHSR  
DE RUEHLO #3152/01 3521714  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 171714Z DEC 08  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0710  
INFO RUEHSL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 003152

SIPDIS  
NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/17/2018  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [PBTS](#) [UK](#)  
SUBJECT: SCOTLAND: ECONOMICS IS CHANGING POLITICS, SAYS  
SCOTLAND OFFICE SECRETARY

REF: LONDON 2525

Classified By: PolMinCouns Greg Berry, reasons 1.4 (b/d)

¶1. (C/NF) Summary. "Economics is changing the politics in Scotland," new Secretary for the Scotland Office Jim Murphy told Polmincouns Decemk Scotland Better As Part of a United Kingdom -----

¶2. (C/NF) Secretary for the Scotland Office Jim Murphy, appointed in the October Cabinet reshuffle (reftel), explained to PolMinCouns on Decem Calman Says Devolution Working -----

¶3. (C/NF) In a separate December 17 conversation, Scotland Office Head of Office David Middleton said the Calman Commission's December 2008 I The Crunch in Scotland -----

¶4. (C/NF) On the impact of the economic recession, Middleton said Scotland was likely doing better than the rest of the UK because it still ha

¶5. (C/NF) Middleton said many Scots are "embarrassed" over the struggle of banks with a "Scottish identity," like Royal Bank of Scotland and E 2010 Referendum Unlikely -----

¶6. (C/NF) The slated 2010 referendum on Scottish independence, one of the SNP's main planks, is unlikely to happen, Middleton predicted. If i

¶7. (C/NF) Our Scottish contacts report that Murphy's appointment was a good one, and Scotland likes having a "full-time Westminster Secretary, TUTTLE